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OCT 30 2006

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 and 62-68 are pending in the patent application, with Claims 17-61 having been withdrawn from consideration in response to a restriction requirement.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-7, 10, 14, 16 and 62-68 under 35 USC 112 as being indefinite. Applicants have amended the language of the claims, as needed, to address the antecedent basis concerns. No new matter is added by the amendments and all claims are believed to be definite in light of the amendments. Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 USC 112 are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-16 and 62-65 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Lederer; Claims 2, 5, 10 and 14 have been rejected as either anticipated or obviated by Lederer; and, Claims 3, 6, 11, 15, 63-64 and 66-67 have been rejected under 35 USC § 103 as being unpatentable over Lederer. For the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully assert that all of the pending claims are patentable over the cited prior art.

The present invention relates to methods and systems for facilitating international shipment of goods that enable centralized control of both the establishment of and any

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changes to international shipping requirements. In accordance with the invention, users can query the system through remote terminals to request requirements for one or more specified countries. Requirement information is provided in response to the request for requirements. The requirement information may be provided in matrix format showing of core requirements relating to all shipments and country specific requirements relating to specified origination and/or destination countries.

The Lederer patent publication is directed to an order processing system wherein a Global Regulatory Compliance System (GRCS) receives product orders and determines whether it can process the order (paragraph [0072], lines 1-2). The GRCS determines whether the customer and product specified in the order are known to the GRCS system (paragraph [0072], lines 2-4). If the customer and product are known to the GRCS, then the GRCS determines whether a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) identifying the product constituents is stored for the ordered product. If so, the MSDS is consulted and the GRCS determines whether the product can be shipped to the indicated order destination given on the product constituents (paragraph [0077], lines 1-7). If the product can be shipped, the GRCS may either send an

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indication that the shipment is permitted or be silent and have silence construed as an indication that shipment is permitted (paragraph [0077], lines 8-15). If an MSDS does not exist, the GRCS may transmit an MSDS to be completed for the ordered product. The GRCS makes its determination of whether a product can be shipped to the indicated order destination based on information obtained by the GRCS from other sources, including a product information system and a regulation source system maintained by an independent regulatory agency (108 and 112 respectively as illustrated in Fig. 1; see: paragraphs [0044] and [0045]).

Applicants respectfully assert that the Lederer patent publication does not anticipate the invention as claimed. The present invention teaches and claims a method, system and program storage product that includes steps and means for storing core requirements applicable to a plurality of countries as well as country-specific requirements. Lederer does not store core requirements or country-specific requirements. Rather, Lederer contacts a regulation source system to obtain regulation information. Further, the present claims recite steps and means for receiving a request from a requester for requirements for one or more selected countries. The GRCS system in Lederer receives a

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product order. The pending claims recite steps and means for determining if country-specific requirements are stored for the one or more selected countries. Lederer determines whether the product and customer specified in the order are known to the GRCS system. The claims recite steps and means for providing core requirements and available country-specific requirements to the requester. In contrast, Lederer sends an indication of whether the ordered product can be shipped. Clearly the Lederer patent publication does not anticipate the invention as set forth in the pending claims.

Anticipation under 35 USC 102 is established only when a single prior art reference discloses each and every element of a claimed invention. See: In re Schreiber, 128 F. 3d 1473, 1477, 44 USPQ2d 1429, 1431 (Fed. Cir. 1997); In re Paulsen, 30 F. 3d 1475, 1478-1479, 31 USPQ2d 1671, 1673 (Fed. Cir. 1994); In re Spada, 911 F. 2d 705, 708, 15 USPQ2d 1655, 1657 (Fed. Cir. 1990) and RCA Corp. v. Applied Digital Data Sys., Inc., 730 F. 2d 1440, 1444, 221 USPQ 385, 388 (Fed. Cir. 1984). Since the Lederer patent publication does not teach the system, program product and method including steps and means for storing core requirements and country-specific requirements, receiving a request for

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requirements for at least one selected country and providing core requirements and available country-specific requirements to the requester, it cannot be maintained that Lederer anticipates the language of independent Claims 1, 4, 7, 62, 65 and 68 or the claims which depend therefrom and add limitation thereto.

With respect to independent Claims 8, 12 and 16, Lederer does not teach a system, method or program product including means and steps for requesting, on a computer, international shipping requirements for at least one selected country; receiving, on the computer, core international shipping requirements applicable to a plurality of countries and an indication of respective country-specific requirements available for the at least one selected country. As such, Applicants believe that Lederer does not anticipate the invention as recited in Claims 8, 12 and 16 and those claims which depend therefrom and add limitations thereto.

With regard to Claims 3, 6, 11, 15, 63-64 and 66-67, which have been rejected under 35 USC § 103 as being unpatentable over Lederer, Applicants rely on the arguments set forth above with respect to the teachings of Lederer which do not anticipate the features of the independent

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claims from which Claims 3, 6, 11, 15, 63-64 and 66-67 depend. Moreover, Applicants contend that Lederer does not teach or suggest providing its regulations in a matrix format. Since Lederer teaches that it sends an indication of whether a product can be shipped, or even allows a lack of response to indicate that a product can be shipped, it cannot be maintained that Lederer teaches or suggests multiple results, let alone that the results be rendered in a matrix format.

Applicants respectfully assert that, for a determination of obviousness, the prior art must teach or suggest all of the claim limitations. "All words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art" (In re Wilson, 424 F. 2d 1382, 1385, 165 U.S.P.Q. 494, 496 (C.C.P.A. 1970)). If the cited references fail to teach each and every one of the claim limitations, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established by the Examiner. Since Lederer does not teach all of the limitations of the claims, a rejection under 35 USC 103 cannot be maintained.

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Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants request entry of the amendments, reconsideration of the teachings of the references, withdrawal of the rejections, and issuance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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